



U.S. Department of Justice

Ronald C. Machen Jr.
*United States Attorney for the
District of Columbia*

*Judiciary Center
555 Fourth St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530*

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, August 1, 2011

For Information Contact:

Public Affairs

(202) 252-6933

<http://www.justice.gov/usao/dc/news/2011/apr/news.html>

MPD Sergeant Pleads Guilty to Felony Theft, Admits Taking \$40,000 From 85-Year-Old Victim -Defendant Met the Victim While Investigating a Crime -

WASHINGTON - Aisha Hackley, 36, a sergeant with the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), pled guilty today to a charge stemming from the theft of \$40,005 from an 85-year-old District of Columbia resident, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and Cathy L. Lanier, Chief of the Metropolitan Police Department.

Hackley, who also is known as Aisha Jackson, pled guilty in the Superior Court of the District of Columbia to a charge of first degree theft from a senior citizen. The Honorable Ronna L. Beck scheduled sentencing for October 17, 2011. The charge carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a fine of up to \$7,500. As part of her plea agreement, Hackley is to submit her resignation to MPD, no later than tomorrow, and to pay full restitution.

Hackley most recently was assigned to the Second Police District in Northwest Washington. According to a statement of facts signed by the defendant and submitted to the Court, the victim filed a police report in December 2010 in which she stated that her bank account was targeted in a lottery fraud scam. Bank of America also was alerted to the suspicious activity on the victim's account. It was at this time that Hackley met the victim, in response to the police report. But instead of helping the victim, Hackley began stealing from the bank account herself.

As part of Bank of America's own investigation, an investigator spoke with Hackley, who said that she was assigned to work on the victim's case. According to the investigator, Hackley said that the victim suffers from short-term memory loss and was not aware of what she was doing. In addition, Hackley said that the victim had provided her personal account information to unknown individuals who made web-based and Automated Clearing House payments.

The victim once again contacted Bank of America on May 31, 2011, reporting a number of suspicious checks that were written against her account and made payable to "Aisha Jackson," a name that she did not recognize. All told, 14 checks were made payable to the defendant or a

relative of the defendant, totaling \$40,005. In a subsequent search of the defendant's home, law enforcement found blank checks from the victim's Bank of America accounts.

"Far too often, scam artists target our elderly population in fraud schemes," said U.S. Attorney Machen. "Unfortunately, in this case, the perpetrator was an unscrupulous police sergeant. Her actions are in sharp contrast to the outstanding work done by the thousands of men and women who protect and serve our community every day as members of the Metropolitan Police Department. Today's plea shows that if you target senior citizens, you will be held accountable for your crimes, no matter your position or status."

In announcing the guilty plea, U.S. Attorney Machen and Chief Lanier praised the honest, hard-working and dedicated men and women of the Metropolitan Police Department who assisted in bringing the case to a successful conclusion. They especially acknowledged the efforts of Detective Vincent Tucci, Agent Sylvan Altieri and Sgt. Daniel Harrington, as well as Detective Tammy Chaffe of the Prince George's County Police Department, and Cheryl Harrison, an investigator for Bank of America. Finally, they cited the work of Criminal Investigators Matthew Kutz and John Marsh of the U.S. Attorney's Office, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Stephanie G. Miller, who prosecuted the case.

11-339

###